

REMARKS / ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-10 and 12-15 remain pending in this application. Claim 11 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. New claims 14 and 15 have been added.

Priority

Applicant requests acknowledgment of the claim for priority and receipt of the priority document. The priority document (JP 2001-171973, filed June 7, 2001) was filed with the initial application on August 30, 2001 and was cited in the Official Filing Receipt mailed October 1, 2001.

Specification

The Examiner has objected to the disclosure for not showing the drawing of Fig. 10 (citing page 17, line 10 of the Specification). However, Applicant believes that the Examiner is referring to page 16, line 10. This portion of the specification has been amended.

35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103

Claims 1-5 and 7-11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Squilla (U.S. Patent No. 6,396,537). Claim 6 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Squilla in view of Lang (U.S. Patent No.

5,021,878). Claim 12 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Lang in view of Squilla. Claim 13 stands rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Squilla in view of Lang. These rejections are traversed as follows.

Contrary to the Examiner's assertion, the cited references do not disclose or suggest the presently claimed invention. According to claim 1, the cooperation service method of associating contents viewing/listening with an attraction system includes a step of recording, in a portable recording medium, viewing-and-listening information at a time of viewing-and-listening to contents relating to the attraction system. The viewing-and-listening information recorded in the recording medium is read in the attraction system for performing the attraction. A privilege service of the attraction system based on the read viewing-and-listening information is then performed. Dependent claims have been added to specify that the recording step is performed at a location remote from a location of the attraction while the reading step is performed at the location of the attraction to further distinguish the present invention from the cited art.

Therefore, according to the present invention, viewing-and-listening information can be recorded upon viewing-and-listening to contents at a location such as a person's home. Then, the recorded information can be brought to an attraction system in order to carry out some privileged service for that person.

On the other hand, Squilla merely discloses that a camera holds personal information of a user. When the camera is used to take a photograph of a scene, certain content information regarding the scene is transmitted to the camera. However, this is much different from receiving a privileged service from an attraction system based upon information that was previously recorded in a portable recording medium that corresponds to that attraction system, as recited in claim 1.

Furthermore, claim 12 is specifically directed to an attraction system having an attraction device for performing an attraction and information input equipment for inputting viewing-and-listening information from a recording medium. Claim 12 also recites that a privileged service is carried out based on the viewing-and-listening information. The features of claim 12 are not disclosed by Squilla. Squilla does not disclose any attraction system having information input equipment in which viewing-and-listening information can be input. Furthermore, Squilla does not disclose any attraction system which carries out a privileged service based on the viewing-and-listening information. In Squilla, particular contents from a scene are transmitted to a camera for display.

The deficiencies in Squilla are not overcome by resort to Lang. Lang also fails to disclose or suggest the limitations of independent claims 1 and 12 that are absent from Squilla. Lang merely discloses an animated character system with real-time control. As such, it is submitted that the pending claims patentably define the present invention over the cited art.

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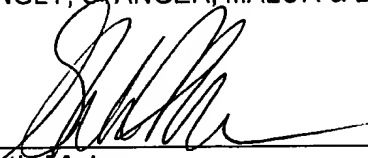
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Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully submitted,

MATTINGLY, STANGER, MALUR & BRUNDIDGE, P.C.

By 
Shrinath Malur
Reg. No. 34,663
(703) 684-1120